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The Civil-service Commission "does up" the Democratic postmaster at Milwaukee in great shape. It seems his entire administration has been a continual violation of the law. The commission report that the expiration of his term deprives them of the gratification of recommending his dismissal.

The question of the liability of the South Fork Fishing Club for the Johnstown disaster is to be tested by litigation. A Johnstown firm which is among the heaviest losers has decided to bring suit for \$150,000, and over a hundred Johnstown merchants have offered to share the expenses. As all the members of the club are very wealthy, a long and bitter legal war may be looked for.

The New York Herald effectually punctures the bubble blown by Gov. Hill relating to the unequal apportionment of the State for legislative purposes, by showing that the Legislature of 1885 passed the proper bill for such a taking of the census, but the Governor vetoed it on the flimsy plea that it provided, also, for the collection of valuable agricultural and industrial statistics.

The New York Sun, speaking of the forthcoming Democratic candidate for the presidency, says: "The New York Democrats have tried Cleveland and do not want any more of him. They did not want him in 1884. The Democracy would now be stronger, more united and more aggressive if that administration had never been. His empty pretensions, his superficial and narrow abilities, his vast ignorance, his perpetual cant, his almost inconceivable self-conceit and selfishness, and his utter lack of any political principle can never recommend him to the Democrats of New York."

The Louisville Courier-Journal and its Washington correspondent are hard at work trying to impeach Senator Chandler and prove that Senator Blackburn did pull his car. Well, suppose he did; what then? It does not prove that Blackburn is a statesman or Chandler a coward. John L. Sullivan could pull almost any man's car without its being resented. Senator Blackburn is a much larger man physically than Senator Chandler, and even if he did what his home organ claims, it was no great exploit. He ought not to pose as a hero or exceptionally brave man as long as he is resting under the lash given him by that Kentucky judge in Utah. If Blackburn really wants to fight, there is an accepted challenge.

A DISPATCH from Atlanta, Ga., says Governor Gordon has just appointed a Mayor and Common Council for the town of St. Mary's. Thereby hangs a bit of history. All the other cities and towns in Georgia elect their municipal officers. Those of St. Mary's alone are appointed by the Governor. That town is on the coast, and is a port of entry of some importance. It has a large majority of colored voters, and for several years after negro suffrage began the colored men held undisputed sway. The whites protested, but the negroes outvoted them. The local government was not bad, but it was black. Finally, the whites hit on the bright idea of appealing to the Legislature. The appeal was successful, and the Legislature passed an act authorizing the Governor to appoint all municipal officers in St. Mary's. Since then the local government has been exclusively white. Strangers who drop into St. Mary's, and who notice the decided preponderance of colored citizens, cannot understand how a small minority of whites manage to control the municipal government year after year. It is Democratic home rule.

The scenes in the Criminal Court in this city, last week, emphasized the demand heretofore made more than once by the Journal for a law which will authorize any court to sit with closed doors when, in the opinion of the judge or magistrate, the welfare of the community requires it. The case on trial was one of the most repulsive and disgusting in its filthy details that ever was tried before any court. It was the trial of a beastly man for incest with his stepdaughter, a mere child, and for which he was sent to the penitentiary five years. During the entire trial the court-room was crowded with old men, just on the verge of the grave, middle-aged lechers, and boys of every age just entering a life of shame, and women of not doubtful virtue, the women vying with the men in their constant attendance, even holding out in their shame to the last, being present at the argument to listen to a rehearsal of the filth of the case. Every consideration of humanity and decency requires the strong arm of the law to at least protect the young from such contamination. But our

criminal courts are not the only courts in which such trials are had. Many civil cases, particularly divorce trials, involve the same class of evidence and pleadings, and cases of the same class often come before justices of the peace. The law ought to permit, if not require, the officer hearing the case to exclude from the court-room all persons not necessarily connected with it. If a sense of shame and of decent proprieties will not keep away aged men, and lewd men, and lewd women, the law should compel them to observe the decencies of civilized life for the sake of the young. There are associations ostensibly and really for the protection of the young that could render no better service than to procure the enactment of such a law by the next Legislature.

IMPROVEMENT IN THE POSTAL SERVICE.

The efficiency, discipline and morale of the postal service in this city have been greatly improved under Postmaster Wallace. There was great room for improvement. Under the last administration there was no discipline and no attempt at efficient administration. There was no head to any department and no responsibility among the subordinates. Clerks and carriers did about as they pleased, and as none of their superiors knew any more about the service than they did, they felt they were responsible to nobody. From dark till daylight there was practically no attention to business. Many of the clerks made a regular practice of gambling, and the work they should have done at night went undone, while they played cards. There was no night superintendent, and what little discipline there was during the day was entirely relaxed at night. Large bags full of letter mail lay undisturbed for many days at a time. The carrier force was demoralized, and the list of advertised undelivered letters increased far beyond what it had ever been before. Under the present administration the list has already decreased fully 50 per cent. There is no better test of the efficiency of the local service than the advertised letter list. This is not half as large now as it was at times during the last administration, and the improvement is still going on. Many other improvements have been made. Discipline has been introduced where there was none before, and the happy-go-lucky regime is at an end. Clerks, carriers, employees and laborers are held to a rigid responsibility, and are made to understand that the postal service is to be attended to, not fooled with. Clerks are required to obey orders and ask no questions. The office discipline is as strict at night as in the day time. There is no more neglect of mails or permitting whole bags of it to lie undistributed for days. The present superintendent of mails knows far more about his duties than his predecessor did after four years, and gives a great deal more time to them, and has his men under far better discipline. The assistant postmaster is master of all the details of the office, and his authority and discipline are felt in every part of it. In all large postoffices the assistant is the postmaster's chief of staff and executive officer. If he does not understand his business there is no discipline and no administrative energy anywhere. It is a notorious fact that under the last administration the assistant postmaster knew little or nothing about the duties of the office, and to this, in a large degree, was due the general lack of discipline and efficiency. It takes time to reform such a state of affairs, but it is being done. Order, discipline, responsibility, industry, promptness and dispatch are being introduced where there was none before. The atmosphere of the office has undergone an entire change, and the efficiency of the service has already been wonderfully improved.

NO DANGER FROM THAT SOURCE.

Chimney-corner scientists and cross-roads wisacres are given to predicting terrible calamities from the perforation of the earth and the exhaustion of its store of oil and gas. The theory of these people is that the withdrawal of oil and gas is producing a great vacuum, which, as the atmosphere will be drawn into it, will cause a terrible collapse or cataclysm. This one of them informed a New York Herald reporter, a few days ago, that the Johnstown disaster was nothing compared to what might, and probably would, happen when nature got ready to avenge the boring of gas wells. He said eventually a great opening must be made in the earth's crust, somewhere west of the Alleghenies, which would be followed either by a great collapse or a terrific explosion and upheaval. If this is liable to happen in western Pennsylvania, it is equally liable to happen in Ohio and Indiana. But it will not happen anywhere, and nervous people who have been alarmed by such suggestions can dismiss their fears.

There is no reason to suppose that the removal of oil or gas from the interior of the earth produces any cavity in the ordinary sense of the term. The sand or rock which contains oil and gas is scarcely more porous than ordinary sandstone. Even if all the oil or gas which they contain could be extracted there would still be no appreciable cavity made, but, as a matter of fact, only a small part of either ever can be extracted. The greater part will still be held in the rock or sand by capillary attraction, and after the rock has given up all its oil or gas the rock itself will remain.

The danger of explosion is no greater than the danger of collapse. As long as the gas wells discharge gas with a pressure exceeding that of the air at the mouth of the well, about fifteen pounds to the square inch, air cannot get into the well to form an explosive mixture, much less find its way to the gas reservoir rock several hundred feet below the surface. It requires from nine to fourteen volumes of air to one volume of natural gas to produce an explosive mixture, and that quantity of air can never find its way into a gas well. If the gas pressure falls the wells would fill up with water long before they would with air. In

short, the idea of an internal conflagration or explosion of the earth is as preposterous as that of a collapse. People living in the gas field of Indiana can take the Journal's word for it there is no danger.

COAL AND THE WAGES FOR MINING.

The Springfield (Mass.) Republican, vying with straight-out old Bourbon Democratic papers, refers to the labor trouble at Brazil as a lockout, and, of course, attributes the disagreement between the operators and the miners to the tariff. What has the tariff to do with the inextinguishable and comparatively inexpensive supply of natural gas which has superseded the use of block coal in its best markets? Whose fault is it that other mines furnish cheaper fuel than can possibly be produced from the block-coal mines? With the Hocking valley mines furnishing a superior coal on the cars, at 80 cents a ton, how can the operators of the block-coal mines compete with them? Already three of the leading railways that once used block coal exclusively have shifted to Hocking valley. The miners say they cannot work at less than the figures they propose, but how can the operators pay even what they offer, when their market is cut off by such competition as natural gas and cheaper coal? Whether the miners can afford to work at 60, or 70, or 80 cents is not the most important question now confronting the whole block-coal region, but whether block coal can be mined at all. Meanwhile the Springfield Republican and the whole brood of free-trade papers and politicians are quite welcome to all the political capital they can make out of the changed circumstances of the block-coal industry. One thing may be counted on: the people who can obtain natural gas or fuel oils at little more than half the cost of block coal will not buy block coal, and railroads that can buy Hocking Valley coal at 80 cents, loaded on the cars, will not pay more for block coal for the sake of keeping the mines open. Already the question has passed beyond the immediate condition of the miners to the more absorbing one—can block coal be mined at all in the future?

The Pittsburg Dispatch, an independent paper with well-formed opinions, says:

Under the Cleveland administration the management of the Indianapolis postoffice furnished a most remarkable example of the gap between professions and promises. The evidence of the scandalous mismanagement of Postmaster Jones, Mr. Cleveland's appointee, was the fact that it was endorsed by Commissioner Edgerton, whose duty of enforcing the civil-service law was that it should only be observed to the extent of violating it.

This is in the nature of a contribution to the truth of history.

Mr. WALLACE has a man in his service who who stands on the court records as a seducer. His name is Hamlin. He owes his place to "political influence." Sentinel.

The public should understand that the man Hamlin was appointed during the last administration, though the Sentinel carefully conceals this fact from its readers. He is a product of the civil-service law, and was appointed by Postmaster Jones.

ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS.

WHITTIER, it is said, falls asleep in his chair when visitors begin to praise his poetry. Earthly honors grow less valuable to him as the years wear on.

COL. AUGUSTUS BRAHAM is dead, after half a century in the British army. He was the latest surviving son of the famous song-writer and singer, John Braham. Two of his brothers were eminent opera singers, and his sister was Frances, Countess Waldegrave.

JOHN W. BARDSLEY, the man who introduced the English sparrows into Philadelphia, was buried last Friday, by the different rituals of fifteen societies to which he belonged, the ceremonies consuming six hours, and his two daughters are still at home. Mrs. Davies is several years younger than her husband, and takes a most active interest in his work.

SAYS Seth Thomas, the clock manufacturer: "The dial of the clocks which we make for China is marked, in lieu of figures, with characters which, I suppose, mean something to them. They don't know. There are three circles of characters, and the one having eight divisions, the next one twelve, and the outermost twenty-four. There are two hands, the shortest one making a revolution in two hours, and the other one takes twenty-four hours to go around. But how they compute time by these is a Chinese puzzle."

REV. DR. CUNNINGHAM, who succeeded Dr. Tulloch as principal of St. Andrew's University, Scotland, is a man of marked individuality. A few years ago, when he was the pastor of a country church, he horrified old-fashioned Presbyterians by advising his congregation to take advantage of a dry Sunday to get in their crops, instead of going to church. And in the General Assembly of the Established Church of Scotland, which was recently held in Edinburgh, he moved that the Apostles' Creed be dropped from a certain book of devotions.

GENERAL SHERMAN "sassed" a reporter who went to see him on Wednesday in New York, and with the expansive politeness of the class, said he had just dropped in "to ask the General if he would not indulge in some chatty anticipations of his coming trip to Denver." The General said that he didn't see that it was any of the public's business whether he went to Denver or not, or where he went, for that matter. The public did not contribute anything to the expense. "I don't expect to hunt any," he said. "The game has all been killed off out there."

MISS KATE FIELD, it now appears from a report of the Viticultural Commission of California, is in her wine crusade, really acting as the agent of that State, and receives a salary of \$8,000 per annum. Marcus D. Borne, Governor Waterman's private secretary, says that "one of the bills which the Governor delayed signing was for \$307.50 expended by Miss Field for one lecture in Washington, making her total cost to the State for the month of March \$362.50. Why, she gave a collation there, among other extravaganzas, which cost \$169. Her bill never should have been audited, but there was no other recourse left."

never without changing color in a very short time, while in the present case the yellow is steady and unchanging.

COMMENT AND OPINION.

WHEN we have good and capable national officers, legislators and judges, let us pay them the respect of not interfering with them in the way which the United States can afford to be niggardly. The cheapest policy is rarely the best one.—Boston Advertiser.

The Republican majority in Congress is more than ready to live on the refined sugar sufficiently to crush the Trust and allow the natural laws of trade, and the price of a few individuals, to fix the price of that commodity.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

THERE need be no oath-bound allegiance to any political or semi-political society in this country where there are no governmental secrets, and all departments of government, all courts and all jails are open to inspection by every citizen who has an honest inquiry.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

Is a country like ours, which has no state church and has no business to prescribe Sabbaths and holy days, every man ought to be free to rest on the day of rest in the way that he finds most restful to him. It is a small matter, but it is one that we ceaselessly protest.—New York World.

High license, with local option, permitting every citizen to vote on the subject, is the straight road to wealth. It is to force it, it meets the demand of the hour, and third-party advocates who fail to see it are blind. The sooner they again begin teaching more temperance and less politics, the better.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

If the opportunity to work is taken from alien settlers they will have to starve, and if they are not allowed to work in the city, and earn hardly be expected to become good citizens under such circumstances. It will be said, of course, that the law does not bar them from employment by private parties, but it is not the probable result of the law that calls for condemnation; it is the principle.—Philadelphia North American.

THERE is no need trying to hide the fact that the cause of temperance generally is fast becoming identified in the minds of common-sense voters with the leadership of half-breed party machines, and that we see that they are damaging the very thing they profess to love. Can there be no a rescue of this cause from public censur? The answer is, no, unless the cause is united their efforts heretofore for measures which can be carried, and when carried can be enforced.—New York Tribune.

GOVERNMENT, both in its domestic and foreign relations, is in a very high position. If a class of the community should assist in making the laws which cannot assist in upholding them an element of weakness and irresponsibility would be introduced into national councils. This is the key to the whole problem. This fact places the woman-suffragists in opposition to a class of the community who would not be opposed without disturbing all the existing social conditions.—Chicago Times.

A PARTY WITHOUT PRINCIPLES.

A Political Organization That Adjusts Itself to the Whims of Candidates.
Senator J. S. Morrill, in July Forum.

The Democratic party in earlier days had some fixed principles, everywhere openly proclaimed, but it has now save what it fits its national conventions elaborate to fit such presidential candidates as Greeley, Hancock or Cleveland, and subject to quadruple change of message and platform. "States rights" and the resolutions of "18" were in the forefront of the Democratic creed; but all this has vanished, and no one now pretends for any national invasion of the rights of any State. Another article of their creed was hard money, Bentonian gold, instead of paper money, which they denominated being made only of bags and lamplacks; strange to say, there is hardly anything now that can be invented for circulation too cheap or too soft and rickety for the major part of the party. The time has been when the party was wont to denounce all internal improvement as unconstitutional; but now no appropriations for such projects appear too extravagant to find elastic support in the Democratic House of Representatives. The party once claimed as its patent of superiority the equal rights and privileges of all men; but in the election of such rights and privileges are denied and refused to millions of American citizens, by those who masquerade and aim to dominate under the name of the Democratic party. The party, however, that it is itself, as the sole author of the rebellion, the sole cause of the extraordinary increase of the great increase of revenue, puts forth the banner of "revenue reform," under which it covertly battles for free trade, but quivers and quakes at any deep cut of tariff duties on Louisiana sugar, on Southern olive oil, on Pennsylvania iron, on Tennessee marble, on North Carolina peanuts, or on Florida oranges, being largely products of the Southern States. The party is therefore, dangerous to touch with free-trade reform, and inclined to revolt. Once the Democratic party was wont to declare and repeat that the executive power had increased, was increasing, and ought to be diminished; but in spite of President Cleveland's many frantic vetoes, in spite of his depositing six millions of the money in pet banks without interest and without law; in spite of his appointments, without the advice and consent of the Senate, of ministers and consuls, and in spite of his attempts to negotiate treaties; in spite of his attempts to govern Congress by giving or withholding executive favors in order to secure the repeal of all duties on tobacco, and to prevent the repeal of the internal tax on tobacco, the party made no protest against the undue exercise of extraordinary executive power, which seemed to have reached a growth not less colossal than that under the administration of General Jackson, when Calhoun denounced the Democratic party as a "league of thieves" and a "power of public plunder." To secure a reelection, besides his reported financial contribution, the President set forth in his annual message his free-trade, protectionist, and other policies, which had been previously known, would undoubtedly have defeated his first election. As a candidate for a second term on the same bale of wool, the New York Tammany Society, but with no vehement adherents elsewhere.

FACTS FOR AGRICULTURISTS.

The Foreign Market About Worthless to Our Farmers.
New York Sun.

No amount of advertising, no proffers of reciprocal trade, no chance of fiscal policy, can force on Europe another peck of wheat per capita, scarcely another quart, for many years to come, unless unexpected disaster shall befall our crops.

These are words of precious truth, and should be read by every farmer in the United States. The National Grange, at its annual meeting last year, in Topeka, adopted a resolution requesting the Commissioner of Agriculture to ascertain the trade relations with European countries, and to be established for the disposal of American surplus agricultural products. The report of the Commissioner, which was made in compliance with the Grange's request, will not be questioned when we state that the value of the surplus of the United States, as drawn by Mr. J. R. Dodge, the well-known statistician of the Department of Agriculture.

Europe is the only foreign buyer of our surplus wheat. Its population is 350,000,000. Its average annual production of wheat and flour is 1,500,000,000 bushels. It annually purchases from other countries about 14,000,000 bushels. It annually consumes four bushels per head of grain and flour. Of this nearly half a bushel per head is imported. All the time the surplus of the United States can't devise a way to make Europe buy five bushels of wheat and flour per head of its population instead of four.

That settles the value of the foreign market so far as wheat is concerned. The grain cannot be forced on Europe. But the American market can be expanded indefinitely by increasing the number of the consumers of food, this by increasing the number and variety of manufactures, and by the increase of immigration to meet the increased demand for mechanical and other labor.

only one-tenth of a surplus! And hauling that tenth four, and five, and six thousand miles, and getting to the two-cent market, and paying insurance and freight on it, and standing the depreciation, shrinkage and waste, and finally encountering the competition of the breadstuffs of India and Russia, all produced by paper labor!

PROTECTION AND LABOR.

Reasons Why the Farmer is the Only Hope for Bettering the Latter's Condition.
Robert Ellis Thompson.

Whatever the temporary hardships and drawbacks, the hope of the working classes must lie with the policy of protection, and that for two reasons. Free trade is the policy which resolves national economy into the production of wealth with the least regard to the welfare of those who produce that wealth. As an English free-trader says: "Political economy is strictly in the right when it shows the straight road to wealth. It is necessarily the shortest road, but it leads through oppression, mourning and woe."

The statesman who has the destinies of a nation at stake, and who is not wise if he listens only to the barren logic of the political economist and leaves out of his reckoning the human factor." Protection is a national declaration of our responsibility for each other, of the consumer for the producer, of the wage-payer for the wage-earner, of community and individual against the underpaid element in it. It is a distinct rejection of the national heartlessness of the English teaching, which sets up the accumulation of wealth without any regard to its distribution as the aim and end of national economy.

Protection is best for the working classes because it so far isolates the question of condition of our working classes as to make it capable of solution. It does not throw them into the labor market of the world to be sold to the lowest bidder, as in England, the cheaper labor of the continent of Europe, and the cheapest labor of Bengal and China. It makes their wages a subject of national concern, and an American question, and to that end it restricts immigration by forbidding the importation of foreign labor. Public opinion, and the sense of community, will for our laboring classes. It never will be realized unless we make our labor market independent of the rest of the world as regards its measure of remuneration.

INGALLS AND THE EDITOR.

The Meeting Between the Famous Senator and a Kansas Journalist.

Washington Special to New York Tribune.

The friends of Senator Ingalls are greatly amused at an account of the first meeting between the great Kansas statesman and the editor of the *Leavenworth (Kan.) Herald*, which the editor gives in a letter recently received in this city. The letter is written in the editorial tone, omitting the "we." "First time we ever saw each other," says the editor, "he was doing western Kansas in a buggy, in company with Lew Hanback, the Congressman from the Sixth Kansas district, and they stepped into the little print-shop we were running out West at that time. He carried an umbrella over his head and wore a high-crowned hat, and he came in and behind the back door of his ears. When we looked out through a little clean place in the window and saw him coming, the office devil to speak an exchange paper over the ink, paste and tobacco stains on the desk, and carry out the old ash-pail we were using as a spittoon. We went out doors after his ash-tray, while we took down a copy of 'The Forum' and busied ourselves in one of the Senator's last articles. It is not every day that a high muck-a-muck, United States Senator with blue-thread socks and tennish underclothes goes calling on a little 10x12 Western printing office. It is not every day that a man who under such trying circumstances could have retained his usual equilibrium, and we would have been somewhat rattled out if the Senator had not stepped into himself to our circumstances instead of forcing us to adapt ourselves to his. We were sure he intended to talk tariff to us, and we were full of wisdom and courage at about the Samoan question, for instance, or the internal revenue, but he didn't. He sat himself down as comfortably as the three-legged chair, and he put both feet upon our desk, and produced something he had brought from the buggy Governor Carroll (Carroll) of North Carolina. It is needless to say that our embarrassment disappeared immediately. Mr. Ingalls was very pretty, his hair was white and he was exceedingly thin and would make a good clothes prop or living illustration of the Dr. Fanner theory. His legs resembled a pair of broomsticks, and he held a pair of guns thrust into gun bags. It is a mystery to us how he manages to carry such a big head full of eighteen-carat brains on such an unassuming set of underpinnings. However, he is one of the brightest stars that radiate in the galaxy of genius and ability, and, withal, a whole-souled, polished gentleman of the first water. We repeat that some day he will be President of these United States."

FINE WORSTED GOODS.

The Enormous Doubling Process Necessary to the Making of a Perfect Yarn.

Fibre and Fabric.

There has been so much said about fine worsted goods during the past political campaign, and the tariff on the same, as compared with the tariff on woolen goods, that perhaps it may be of interest to many to know the process of making the manufacture of worsted goods. The raw material for both woolen and worsted goods is wool, and may, indeed, often does, come from the same source. The wool is selected for worsted goods. It is the process that makes the difference, the material being always the same, excepting the length of the fibre. In the manufacture of fine worsted goods the number of times the stock is doubled seems almost incredible, in fact, those who only partially understand manufacturing processes would hardly believe the stock is doubled the number of times it is during the process of making finished worsted yarn, ready to be made into goods. The Globe Woolen Company, at Utica, N. Y., undoubtedly makes the best worsted goods made in the United States, and it is on that side of the big pond, the Globe goods have a world-wide reputation. Knowing this fact for many years, and also the management of the Globe Woolen Company has taken a great interest in the controversy over the tariff on woolen and worsted goods, we have selected this mill as an example and taken the trouble to look into the manufacture of these goods at the mills, especially with reference to the enormous doubling process to make perfect yarn. Incredible as it may seem, we find that the stock in making the finished yarns, ready for the goods, is doubled 557,471,120 times. As this may be questioned by some of our expert manufacturers, we will give the number of doubles as made, and the machines on which it is doubled. First the wool is doubled three times on the card, then five times on the preparatory gill box, after the cards; then five times on the back wash; and nine times on the gill box after the back wash, after which it is taken to the combing machinery, on which seventy-two strands are placed. Then twelve strands of this product are placed on the first finishing gill box, after combing, after which six strands are placed on the second finishing gill box. If these figures are multiplied together, as the doubles take place, it will be found that up to this stage the number of doubles has been 3,499,200. This brings the stock to what manufacturers call "finished top." Four strands of this are then placed on the first card gill box drawing, and five strands are placed on the second card gill box drawing; then five strands on the spindle gill-box drawing; then four strands on the first spindle gill box; then four strands on the second spindle gill box; then three strands on the first eight spindle finisher; then two strands on the second eight spindle finisher; then two strands on the first twenty-four spindle reducer; then two strands on the second thirty-two spindle reducer; then two strands on the thirty-two spindle dandy roving frame. All of these multiplied together, as the doubling is done, will give 208,738,560,000 times that it has been doubled. We have

now got our fine worsted yarn completed, only it is single yarn, ready for making into double and twist, and must be care more doubled to bring it to perfect yarn, ready to be made into goods. When we do this, we shall find we have doubled it 537,471,120,000 times.

JOHNNY STEELE'S OIL-CAN.

An Accident Which Suddenly Gave the Young Spendthrift a Fortune.

Philadelphia Press.

"The announcement that the mother of John Steele, the once famous 'Coal-oil Johnny,' is dying in an almshouse in the western part of the State," and a Philadelphia who was one of the first to go to Venango county when oil was discovered on Oil creek, "reminds me that Steele came suddenly into his immense fortune through the first fatal accident caused by kindling a fire by the help of the oil-can of which there is no record. Steele was the adopted son of the widow McClintock who owned the cultivated McClintock farm on Oil creek. She poured oil in her stove from a can to hasten the burning. An explosion followed, and she was burned to death. The farm was then producing its thousands of barrels of oil a day, and the price was high. The property was inherited by young Steele. He was not of age, and Capt. J. J. Vandergift, now one of the Standard Oil Company's pipe-line millionaires, of Pittsburgh, was appointed guardian of the property, pending the boy's majority, which arrived a few weeks after the death of Mrs. McClintock. Steele's income has been variously stated, some figures placed on it being simply enormous. The true figure was big enough, goodness knows. Captain Vandergift told me once just what it was a day, and now I came to know it exactly. It was just after the close of the war, and they were moving to erect a soldiers' monument in Venango county, and Steele offered to contribute one day's income from his wells toward the project. Captain Vandergift kept strict account of the day's record, and the income was \$2,700. One knew how Johnny Steele got along, and he left a big share of his ill-spent wealth right here in this town of Philadelphia. By the way, that monument was the first soldiers' monument ever projected in the Union, unless it may have been Dan Rice's magnificent \$5,000 memorial at Girard, Erie county, which was put up in the summer of 1865, almost as soon as the last veteran had been discharged from service. It is a startling array, but it is estimated that more than one hundred million of dollars worth of property was destroyed by similar attempts to hurry fires in stoves."

Civil-Service Talk.

Louisville Commercial.

The Hon. Tom Browne, of Indiana, is quoted by an interviewer as in favor of abolishing the civil-service law, though, if correctly reported, he does not understand the law, and is in favor of its object, which is to make the tenure of subordinate places in the service depend on good behavior and not on politics. Browne, however, proposes to accomplish that object by proportioning these places among the States equally and allowing the Senators and Representatives to select the men to fill them, as they do cadets for West Point and Annapolis. That is a crude idea, and will neither secure a good service nor a more partisan one. The system of appointments by favor has not worked well in many Congressmen, and they have adopted the plan of competitive examination, substantially the same as the civil-service law provide for, as a saving of money and an unpleasant responsibility.

Appointing officials is an executive function, and the Constitution nowhere contemplates that it shall be done by Congress. Every winter we hear Congressmen putting up a wall about the way their time is taken up by office-seekers. These complaints are the cry of men who when they come from men who are constantly clamoring for the recognition of their right to control appointments. If they have the right to control the President and heads of departments, their complaints have an equal right to take up their time, and ought to do it. A Congressman who devotes himself to that sort of business is not often fit to discharge very usefully the higher duties of his position.

Quickest on Record.

Lewiston Journal.

The quickest divorce ever granted in York county was decreed by Judge Haskell, at Alfred, last week. Mrs. Edward W. Kelly, of Saco, had applied for a divorce, and she appeared before the judge with two sons. Her husband had spent most of his time since their marriage in jail, and had just been brought up on a charge of stealing hens.

"Is that man your husband?" asked the judge. The woman replied in the affirmative.

"You're divorced," said the court, with a celebrity of action equal to that of the bustling New Hampshire parson who married his patrons in this fashion: "You take this woman for a wife, and I shall be your husband! Married. Two dollars."

A Civil-Service Hint to Mr. Browne.

Philadelphia Press.

Congressman Browne, of Indiana, ought to grow up with the country instead of standing still. He thinks that the Civil-service Commission should be abolished and the law creating it repealed. He says that the people will demand a change. He will find that what the people demand is the enforcement of the law and not its repeal. The evidence of the act have been the cause of complaint of the people. The office-seekers and the people are not synonymous terms, and that is where the general Representative makes his mistake.

Men Who Know All About the Cronin Case.

Philadelphia Record.

Now that there seems to be a possibility that the identification of the Winnipeg prisoner may lead to a clearing up of the Cronin murder mystery, it is astonishing to hear of the number of persons who are coming forward to explain what they know about the case. If half of the repressed information with which they are bursting had been given at the time the murder was committed, the case might have been cleared up a month ago.

Queer Ways of Sovereigns.

New York Commercial Advertiser.

A little quarrel and temporary hard feeling led to the most thorough and increased tenderness in domestic circles. It is on the same principle, probably, that visits and cousinly embraces among the European sovereigns are invariably preceded by the massing of troops on the frontier.

A Whiling Martyr.

Chicago Tribune.

In justice to the Hon. John M. Palmer, of Illinois, it may be said that whenever the voice of his party calls him there is no office in the country that he is not willing to make a martyr of himself in trying to get.